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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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50X1-HUM

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 24 Apr. 1951

SUBJECT Organization of Population, Arrests and Executions
by Chinese Communists, Kwangtung

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1. In early April Chungshan (113-36, 22-22) Hsien authorities organized units of ten families each to meet weekly to hear speeches by Communist Party members on Communist principles and their application. The Public Security Bureau, the Farmers' Association, and the Women's Association were given joint responsibility for the formation of these units. The head of each unit is a member of either the Farmers' Association or the Women's Association*.
2. From late March to the middle of April about 2,300 landlords and anti-Communists were arrested by the authorities of Hua (113-18, 23-29) Hsien. About 300 of these have been secretly executed.
3. On 15 April the Kwangtung Public Security Bureau ordered all Hsien Public Security offices to release, without announcement, all prisoners a few at a time and to have them walk through main thoroughfares where they can be watched unobserved by officers with authority to arrest anyone seen talking to them.

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* Comment.

the Chinese Communists were strongly opposed to the pao-chia system of the Nationalist regime, and following their occupation they immediately abolished it and placed the pao-chia heads under strict surveillance. Any head who objected was arrested and executed for treason. However, prior to the establishment of a proper organization of civil administration, they often made use of these heads.

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After Communist occupation they appointed village and district leaders. These leaders were largely chosen from platoon commanders and members of the Cultural Corps who are members of the Communist Party. However, many of these agents were illiterate and inexperienced in civil administration, but they were loyal to the Communist Party, most of them having had three or four years of affiliation with it.

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After the Communists became more acquainted with prevailing local conditions and had established farmers' unions, they appointed the aggressive elements of the farmers' unions as heads of the villages. Sometimes they appointed local young men, who later underwent Communist training.

With the appointment of these new heads, the former pao-chia heads were finally replaced. Many of these heads have now joined the guerillas, while a small number of them are engaged in business.

After one year, the organization of districts and villages have been established with clear distinction and separate duty. In December 1950, the Government Administrative Council in Peiping promulgated a set of laws and by-laws governing the organization of district government and village government.

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